

REMARKS

Applicants thank the Examiner for indicating that claims 4-5 are allowable.

Additionally, Applicants thank Examiner McClendon for discussing the above-identified application with Applicants' representative on June 2, 2004. The discussion served to further prosecution and the content of which is reflected in the amendment to the claims and the remarks contained herein.

Claims 1, 2, and 7 are amended.

The amendment to claim 1 serves introduce the limitation of allowable claim 4, while the amendment to claim 2 serves to improve readability. The amendment to claim 7 serves to include an active process step.

New claims 10-17 are added.

New claim 10 is a combination of original claim 1 and allowable claim 5, while the remaining claims 11-17 are similar to original claims 2-4 and 6-9.

Support for the amendments to the claims and new claims is found in the specification and claims, as originally filed. It is believed that no new matter will be added upon entry of the amendment.

Upon entry of the amendment, claims 1-3 and 6-17 will be active.

The rejection of claims 1-3 and 7-9 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) in view of Stansbury et al. (U.S. 6,184,339) is obviated by amendment.

It is requested that the Examiner withdraw this rejection.

Furthermore, the rejection of claims 1 and 6-7 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, is obviated-in-part by amendment and traversed-in-part.

The amendment to claim 7 including the active step of "curing...by an active energy ray" better defines the metes and bounds of the claimed embodiment.

Application No. 10/000,019
Reply to Office Action of March 4, 2004

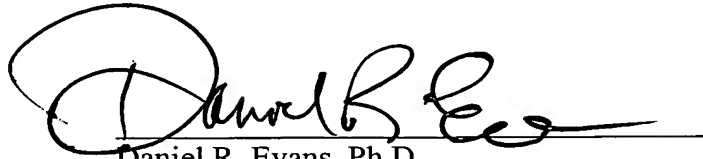
In regard to the term "capable" in original claim 1, the Examiner's attention is directed
MPEP § 2173.05(g), which states that such language is considered to be a "functional
limitation" and is permissible.

Thus, in view of the amendment and the pertinent MPEP passage it is requested that
the Examiner withdraw this rejection.

In view of the above, it is believed that the application is now in a condition for
allowance. An early and favorable indication of the same is earnestly requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Daniel R. Evans", written over a horizontal line.

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